



# Homeland Security

*Privacy Office, Mail Stop 0655*

June 21, 2019

**SENT VIA E-MAIL TO:** ALAFAILLE@ACLU.M.ORG

Adriana Lafaille  
American Civil Liberties Union  
211 Congress Street  
Boston, MA 02110

**Re: 2019-HQFO-00885**

Dear Ms. Lafaille:

This letter acknowledges receipt of your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Privacy Office, dated June 20, 2019, and received in this office on June 21, 2019. You requested the following documents:

- (1) All Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) memoranda, documentation, and/or reports relating to an individual's verified or suspected gang affiliation, whether addressed to an "Alien File" or sent to any other agency or sub-agency, including the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's (ICE) Office of Chief Counsel (OCC), ICE Enforcement and Removal Operations (ERO), the Boston Immigration Court, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Intelligence and Analysis, and the U.S. Attorney's Office. Please do not redact the zip code, country of origin, year of birth, or basis for gang affiliation. This request is limited to memoranda, documentation or reports created or submitted by HSI in Massachusetts between September 1, 2015 and the date of the search.
- (2) All correspondence between HSI Special Agent Sean Connolly and DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis, ICE's National Gang Unit, ICE OCC and/or ICE ERO. This request is limited to correspondence between May 1, 2017 and October 31, 2017, and between January 1, 2019 and the date of the search.
- (3) All correspondence between HSI Special Agent Sean Connolly and the Boston Police Department (BPD), Boston Regional Intelligence Center (BRIC), Chelsea Police Department, Everett Police Department, Nantucket Police Department, New Bedford Police Department, Pittsfield Police Department, Revere Police Department, the Massachusetts State Police, and/or any school district employees in Massachusetts between September 1, 2015 and the date of the search.
- (4) All documents mentioning East Boston High School (EBHS), Chief Eric Weston, Lt. Kenneth Badgett, Lt. James Giardina, Sgt. Gabriel Rosa and/or Officer Roy Ercolano, including

communications with each of these individuals, between January 1, 2015 and the date of the search.

(5) All documents mentioning the BPD-ICE Task Force or Boston Police Sergeant Detective Gregory Gallagher, between January 1, 2015 and the date of the search.

(6) All communications with Boston Police Sergeant Detective Gregory Gallagher or another member of the BPD-ICE task force between May 1, 2017 and October 31, 2017, and between January 1, 2019 and the date of the search.

(7) All documents related to Operation Matador or any other enforcement operations targeting gang members or associates in Massachusetts.

(8) All documents reflecting DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis' access to the BRIC's gang database and other databases containing information about the suspected gang affiliation of Massachusetts individuals.

(9) All memoranda of understanding or other agreements pertaining to the sharing of intelligence or information with state and local law enforcement in Massachusetts, including but not limited to agreements with the Commonwealth Fusion Center, the Massachusetts State Police, BRIC, and the Boston Police Department.

(10) Policy directives, internal memos, or other guidance, whether formal or informal, related to the practices and procedures for screening individuals for possible gang involvement, including but not limited to (a) unaccompanied minors; (b) nationals of Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, and/or Guatemala; (c) any other category of individual with cases pending before U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services or the Executive Office of Immigration Review.

(11) Any record documenting the number of DHS employees assigned to work at the Commonwealth Fusion Center, the name of the component agency that employs each employee (e.g. HSI, ERO, etc.), the employee's job title, and/or the employee's level or type of permission to access databases containing information about alleged gang association.

(12) Any record documenting the number of DHS employees assigned to work at the BRIC, the name of the component agency that employs each employee (e.g. HSI, ERO, etc.), the employee's job title, and/or the employee's level of permission to access the Gang Assessment Database and any other databases containing information about alleged gang association.

(13) Any record of the databases maintained by Massachusetts state or local entities that are searchable or accessible by representatives of the Department of Homeland Security.

(14) Any document describing HSI or other DHS procedures pertaining to the verification of information originating from state and local law enforcement, including field interaction/observation/encounter (FOIE) or similar reports and gang designation determinations.

Due to the subject matter of your request, I am transferring this request to the FOIA Officer for I&A, and ICE. Please find their contact information below.

**Office of Intelligence & Analysis (I&A)**

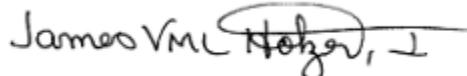
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, D.C. 20528  
FOIA Officer/Public Liaison: Brendan Henry  
Phone: 202-447-3783  
Fax: 202-612-1936  
E-mail: [I&AFOIA@hq.dhs.gov](mailto:I&AFOIA@hq.dhs.gov)  
I&A Website

**United States Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE)**

Freedom of Information Act Office  
500 12th Street, SW, Stop 5009  
Washington, D.C. 20536-5009  
FOIA Officer: Catrina Pavlik-Keenan  
FOIA Requester Service Center Contact: Fernando Pineiro  
Phone: 866-633-1182  
Fax: 202-732-4265  
E-mail: [ice-foia@dhs.gov](mailto:ice-foia@dhs.gov)  
ICE Website

If you need to contact our office again about this matter, please refer to **2019-HQFO-00885**. You may contact this office at 1-866-431-0486 or 202-343-1743.

Sincerely,



James Holzer  
FOIA Program Specialist